

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

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TAGS: SNAR, UN, AF

SUBJECT: CONTROL OF NARCOTIC DRUGS IN AFGHANISTAN -
UNFDAC - CONSULTATIVE GROUP

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN GIVING THOUGHT TO ORGANIZATION OF MEETING CALLED BY AMBASSADOR SCHURMANN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENABLING POTENTIAL BILATERAL DONORS TO FORM AN IDEA OF WHAT EACH GOVERNMENT OR ORGANIZATION MIGHT BE WILLING TO DO TO FURTHER THE DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS OF THE RGA AND THE UN. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW SCHURMANN ENVISAGES STRUCTURING THE MEETING BUT WE WOULD ASSUME THAT IT WOULD PROCEED ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES.

2. INTRODUCTION BY SCHURMANN EXPLAINING THE JOINT UN/FAO REPORT AND THE INTENTIONS OF UNFDAC IN AFGHANISTAN. WE ASSUME THAT SCHURMANN WOULD THEN INTRODUCE THE SO-CALLED "SHOPPING LIST" AND EXPLAIN WHAT THE UN HAS IN MIND IN THE WAY OF SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE FROM BILATERAL DONORS.

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3. FOLLOWING THAT WE WOULD ASSUME THAT SCHURMANN WOULD

INVITE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. IN OUR INTERVENTION WE WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE OF SCHURMANN AND OF THE UNFDAC/FAO/AFGHAN PROGRAM. WE WOULD ALSO TAILOR OUR REMARKS TO CONTRIBUTE TO AND GENERATE A BROAD CONSENSUS ON THE NATURE OF THE AFGHAN NARCOTICS PROBLEM AND THE MEANS WHICH CAN BE TAKEN

TO ASSIST THE RGA. WE WOULD SEEK TO GENERATE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON A MULTILATERAL APPROACH TO A SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE DISCUSSIONS COULD PROCEED TO THE POINT WHERE TENTATIVE COMMITMENTS MIGHT BE MADE BY DONORS EITHER TO THE UNFDAC PROGRAM SPECIFICALLY FOR AFGHANISTAN OR TO BILATERAL SUPPORT OF AFGHANISTAN'S EFFORTS.

4. WE ARE INTERESTED, AND WE ASSUME OTHERS WOULD BE TOO, IN SETTING FORTH CRITERIA BY WHICH WE COULD MEASURE AFGHAN SINCERITY AND COMMITMENT TO DRUG CONTROL PRIOR TO UNDERTAKING UNFDAC/FAO AND BILATERAL PROGRAMS. WE WOULD ALSO WISH TO AGREE TO BUILD INTO PROGRAMS BENCHMARKS AGAINST WHICH TO REVIEW LATER RGA PERFORMANCE. WE HAVE IN MIND FOR PRIOR ACTION BY THE RGA THE FOLLOWING: FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF UNFDAC/FAO REPORT; PUBLICLY REITERATING BAN ON OPIUM PRODUCTION AND RESTATING ITS COMMITMENT TO ERADICATE OPIUM PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING; TAKING EARLY ACTION TO PASS AND PROMULGATE AN ENFORCEABLE COMPREHENSIVE NARCOTICS LAW; ASSIGNING NECESSARY PERSONNEL TO NARCOTICS WORK, FOR EXAMPLE, IMMEDIATELY APPOINTING A HIGH-RANKING COORDINATOR AND ASSIGNING PERSONNEL TO SUPPLEMENT ENFORCEMENT SECTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE; BEGINNING OF ENFORCEMENT IN THE NON-PILOT PROJECT AREAS. (IN THOSE AREAS WHERE OPIUM IS A RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT CROP AND WHERE OTHER ALTERNATIVES ARE AVAILABLE TO THE CULTIVATORS, THE RGA MUST VIGOROUSLY PURSUE ITS BAN ON OPIUM PRODUCTION.) FYI: TO USG THIS MEANS ESPECIALLY HELMAND VALLEY. END FYI. FINALLY, WE WOULD HOPE TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UN, THE RGA AND THE BILATERAL DONORS THAT PROMPT AN EFFECTIVE RGA PERFORMANCE ON ITS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO A FLOW OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FROM ANY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOURCE, MULTILATERAL OR BILATERAL. THE MEETING COULD PERHAPS ADOPT SOME FORM OF A CONSENSUS STATEMENT OR COMMUNIQUE WHICH WOULD SET FORTH THESE UNDERSTANDINGS. THERE ARE OTHER POSSIBILITIES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE SCHURMANN'S VIEWS ON HOW THIS COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED.

5. FINALLY, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT THE MEETING WOULD AGREE TO SCHEDULE A PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR EARLY FALL

UNDER UN AUSPICES.

6. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO DISCUSS ALL THE ABOVE WITH
SCHURMANN AND REPORT WHETHER IT CONFORMS TO HIS CONCEPTION
OF HOW THE MEETING WILL PROCEED. IN PARTICULAR WE WOULD
WELCOME HIS AND MISSION'S VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO DISCUSS

AND ACHIEVE A FORMULATION OF THE CONDITIONS SET DOWN
IN PARA 4 ABOVE. RUSH

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